

**Governing Iowa's public
universities and special schools**

University of Iowa
Iowa State University
University of Northern Iowa
Iowa School for the Deaf
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School
Lakeside Laboratory
Quad-Cities Graduate Center
Southwest Iowa Regents Resource Center
Tri-State Graduate Center



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January 3, 2006

Mike Marshall
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol

Margaret Thomson
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol

Dear Mr. Marshall and Ms. Thomson:

As required by Iowa Code §8D.10, the enclosed table summarizes the estimated FY 2006 increased costs for the Board of Regents associated with the use of the Iowa Communications Network. For the past four years, the Board has reported increased costs instead of savings as a result of ICN usage.

The assumptions used to estimate the dollars include:

1. Same level of participation in voice and data services regardless of cost.
2. Video expense would not exceed current budgeted amounts.
3. Alternate carriers always available.
4. Cost of equipment, setup, scheduling, and technical support are not included.

The Regent universities believe they could negotiate better prices on voice and data services with an alternate carrier. The Regent institutions estimate the use of the ICN costs \$222,374 more than if competing technologies were utilized. Since the institutions would most likely not spend more than the amount currently budgeted for video regardless of the source, there are no savings or additional costs associated with video usage.

The University of Northern Iowa offered 128 courses over the ICN helping it achieve its statewide educational mission.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Steinke

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Enclosure

cc: Mary Shipman, LSA
John Gillispie, ICN
Legislative Liaisons
Legislative Log

**Iowa Board of Regents
Annual Report of ICN Savings for FY 2006**

Institution: University of Northern Iowa

ICN Events	Cost of ICN Use (Dollars)	Description of Savings	Alternate Costs Savings (Dollars)*	Value- added benefit
Long Distance	\$ 58,548	Combination of domestic, international, toll-free	\$ (22,126)	
Internet	-	UNI received waiver for Internet services for FY06	-	
Network	7,920	15Mb Ethernet from UNI to Ames for Internet2	32,800	
Video	\$ 188,121		-	*see
FY 2006 Total	\$ 254,589		\$ 10,674	

* The ICN assists UNI in fulfilling its statewide mission. In 2005-06 UNI offered seventeen degree programs and two certificate programs to Iowa students in 117 communities and 61 countries. The ICN allows UNI to combine on-campus and off-campus students in the same courses, thus causing more efficient use of faculty resources. In FY06, UNI offered 128 courses over the ICN with an enrollment of 1,719.

**Iowa Board of Regents
Annual Report of ICN Savings for FY 2006**

Institution: Iowa School for the Deaf

ICN Events	Cost of ICN Use (Dollars)	Description of Savings	Estimated Savings (Dollars)	Value- Added Benefit
Voice Services	\$ 1,489	Long distance phone charge savings	\$ 1,567	
Video	5,728			
Other	\$258			
FY 2006 Total	\$ 7,475		\$ 1,567	

Value Added Benefits: Staff time for scheduling IEP meetings was significantly reduced because of the flexibility on participants time. This flexibility allowed for greater parent participation which improved the student IEP's.

Most IEP travel costs were significantly reduced or eliminated when the ICN was utilized.

**Iowa Board of Regents
Annual Report of ICN Savings for FY 2006**

Institution: Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School

ICN Events	Cost of ICN Use (Dollars)	Description of Savings	Estimated Savings (Dollars)	Value- Added Benefit
Video Services	\$5,571	Video exp would not exceed current budgeted amts	\$0	
Voice Services	\$3,360	Commercial rates are lower	-\$604	
Data Services	\$4,143			
FY 2006 Total	\$13,074		-\$604	

**Iowa Board of Regents
Annual Report of FY 2006 ICN Savings**

Institution: All Regent Institutions

	Cost of ICN Use	Estimated Savings (Additional Costs)
University of Iowa	\$ 727,663	\$ (53,777)
Iowa State University	432,149	(180,234)
University of Northern Iowa	254,589	10,674
Iowa School for the Deaf	7,475	1,567
Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School	13,074	(604)
FY 2006 Regent Total	\$ 1,434,950	\$ (222,374)

Assumptions used:

- 1) Same level of participation in voice and data services regardless of the cost.
- 2) Video expense would not exceed current budgeted amounts.
- 3) Alternate carriers always available.
- 4) Costs of equipment, setup, scheduling, and technical support not included.